**Harvest Strategies**

* ***Sentence starters:***  The easiest way to begin a conversation can simply be to respond to this prompt: "What stood out for you?" For your first discussions, you may want to ask students to look for things that stand out or that they thought were funny, scary, or ridiculous. The following prompts also work well as students read to prepare for discussion:

|  |
| --- |
| I noticed…  I thought...  I liked...  I wonder...  I felt...  I predict…  My question is…  My connection is…  My favorite parts…  If I could change…  What if… |

* ***Two/Three Column Charts:*** Student generate questions and connections as they read.
* ***Post-it Notes:*** As they read, students can make short notes or write questions on the Post-it to remind them of what they want to discuss. After the discussion or time with the text was through, my students gathered their post it notes on a page(s) in their reading notebooks.
* ***Annotating and coding on the text:*** Students circle important words, underline key ideas, write questions marks beside confusing places, write exclamation points by things that stood out to them as interesting or important.
* ***Generating a List of Questions:*** Students lost questions they have as they read the text.
* ***Graphic organizers:*** graphic organizers can be tailored to the specific reading skill practiced or content area covered. (Main idea & details, text structures, arguments)
* ***Discussion Logs:*** Students write extended responses about what they read.
* ***Focus question:*** Students answer a particular question.
* ***Visual representations:*** Students capture responses nonlinguistically- drawing, doodling, etc.

Some ideas taken from http://www.litcircles.org/Discussion/prep.html#Prompts